MR. N. SONNAPPA, CHIKBALLAPUR TALUK.—

Q.—13. Will the Government be pleased to investigate the following matter:—

In cases where the death of a person occurs by suicide, drowning or such other ordinary circumstances, the police officers, who hold inquests, declare that the *post mortem* examination on the dead body is necessary. It is understood that the Inspector-General of Police in Mysore has issued a departmental circular authorising the police officers to invariably order such examination. Are Government aware that this procedure has been causing a good deal of trouble and inconvenience to the poor, innocent relatives of the deceased? If so, will Government kindly issue necessary instructions for withdrawal of such circular?

SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT, LOCAL AND LEGISLATIVE DEPARTMENTS.

A.—The circular in question merely draws the attention of the police to the provisions of Section 174, Criminal Procedure Code and enjoins on them the necessity for a thorough and sifting enquiry into the cause of death. It is only in the absence of clear and reliable evidence, direct or circumstantial, proving death to have been accidental, that the body is subjected to *post mortem* examination. Under the circumstances, there is no necessity to withdraw the circular.

Supplementary Questions.

Mr. N. Sonnappa.

Is it possible to withdraw the circular in question?

Second Member.

The reply is clear. The circular follows the law and there is nothing new in it.

MESSRS. D. S. MALLAPPA AND SINGRI NANJAPPA, TIPTUR TALUK.—

Q.—14. Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(*a*) Why Tiptur taluk was not included in the distress area, though there was no crop in the taluk and famine conditions prevail in it?